

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The office action dated April 23, 2003, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-24 are currently pending. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter of claims 5-7 and 10-12, which have been amended to be in independent form. Claims 19-21 contain the subject matter of allowable claims 5-7 and depend from amended claim 1; claims 22-24 contain the subject matter of allowable claims 10-12 and depend from amended claim 9.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's related art FIGS. 3 and 4 ("Related Art") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,317,186 B1 to Miwa (hereinafter "Miwa"). Applicants hereby traverse these rejections for the reasons set forth below.

The rejection of claims 1-4 and 8 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1-4 and 8 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "forming a seal pattern on the second substrate, the seal pattern having a plurality of triangular bent portions each having an open side and a vertex opposite the open side, the vertex directed toward a display area of the second substrate, wherein each triangular bent portion circumvents a conductive contact dot." None of the cited references including Applicant's Related Art and Miwa, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. The structure of claim 1 of the present application is different from the Miwa structure in that Miwa does not teach or suggest a vertex opposite an open portion directed toward a display area and does not teach or suggest any structure of seal pattern relative to a conductive dot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and claims 2-4 and 8, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references. Applicants submit that new claims 13-15 and 19-21 are allowable by virtue of their ultimate dependence on allowable claim 1.

The rejection of claim 9 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 9 is allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements

including, for example, “forming a seal pattern on the second substrate, the seal pattern having a plurality of semicircular bent portions, the semicircular bent portions each having an open portion and an arc portion opposite the open portion, the arc portion being closer to a display region of the second substrate than the open portion, wherein each semicircular bent portion circumvents a conductive contact dot” None of the cited references including Applicant’s Related Art and Miwa, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. The structure of claim 9 of the present application is different from the Miwa structure in that Miwa does not teach or suggest a arc portion opposite an open portion directed toward a display area and does not teach or suggest any structure of seal pattern relative to a conductive dot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is allowable over the cited references. Applicants submit that new claims 16-18 and 22-24 are allowable by virtue of their ultimate dependence on allowable claim 9.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

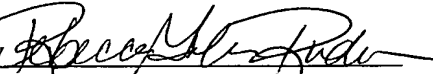
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

In view of the above, each of the claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Dated: July 23, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Rebecca Goldman Rudich
Registration No.: 41,786
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant